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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Sixth Committee

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat considers it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and 32/71 of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to draw the attention of the Sixth Committee to the information below.

Items allocated to the Sixth Committee

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly allocated 23 items to the Sixth Committee. The list of those items, organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, is contained in a letter dated 16 September 2011 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee, which has been circulated as a document of the Committee (A/C.6/66/1).

Documentation relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee

3. The table below lists the documents of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of the Assembly at preceding sessions, as well as to documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Sixth Committee,[1] in accordance with requests of Member States.

[1] The figure in brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on the agenda of the sixty-sixth session. The list of documents is based on information available as at 16 September 2011.

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	Projected date of issuance
Election of the officers of the Main Committees [5]	No advance documentation required
Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States [77]	
Note by the Secretariat (A/66/178 and Add.1)	Issued End of September for addendum
Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission [78]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/174)	Issued
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-fourth session [79]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/66/17)	End of September
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [80]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/__)	Mid-October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-third session [81]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/66/10 and Add.1)	End September End of October for the addendum
Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission (oral)	
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [82]	
Report of the Special Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/66/33)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (A/66/201)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (A/66/213)	Issued
The rule of law at the national and international levels [83]	
Annual report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities (A/66/133)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction [84]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/93 and Add.1)	Issued
The law of transboundary aquifers [85]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/116 and Add.1)	Issued End of September for addendum
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [109]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/66/37)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on measures to eliminate international terrorism (A/66/96 and Add.1)	Issued
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [121] (adoption of a provisional programme of work for the sixty-seventh session) (resolution 58/316)	No advance documentation required
Programme planning [135]	
General Assembly resolutions 58/269, 62/224, 63/247, 64/229 and 65/244	
Administration of justice at the United Nations [143]	
Amendments to the rules of procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal Report of the Secretary-General (A/66/86 and Add.1)	Issued
Administration of justice at the United Nations	Issued
Report of the Internal Justice Council (A/66/158)	
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [166]	
Report of the Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/66/26)	Early November
Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly [167]	
Letter dated 2 May 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/141)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
Observer status for the Union of South American Nations in the General Assembly [168]	
Letter dated 24 June 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Guyana to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/144)	Issued
Observer status for the International Renewable Energy Agency in the General Assembly [169]	
Letter dated 11 July 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/145)	Issued
Observer status for the Central European Initiative in the General Assembly [170]	
Letter dated 13 July 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Italy, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/191)	Issued
Observer status for the United Cities and Local Governments in the General Assembly [171]	
Letter dated 19 July 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/192)	Issued
Observer status for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in the General Assembly [172]	
Letter dated 5 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/193)	Issued
Observer status for the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries in the General Assembly [173]	
Letter dated 12 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/196)	Issued
Observer status for the International Conference of Asian Political Parties in the General Assembly [174]	
Letter dated 10 August 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Cambodia, Japan, Nepal, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/198)	Issued

Date for concluding the work of the Committee, order and approximate dates of consideration of items

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

> Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item.

5. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/316 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Sixth Committee, the Assembly, at its 57th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2010, adopted decision 65/511 containing the provisional programme of work for the Sixth Committee for the sixty-sixth session of the Assembly. The Bureau of the Sixth Committee reconsidered the provisional programme of work in the light of the allocation of new items to the Committee by the Assembly and prepared a slightly modified provisional programme (see below).

6. The General Assembly, at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, upon the recommendation of the General Committee (A/66/250, para. 12), fixed the target date of 10 November 2011 for the completion of the work of the Sixth Committee, which has also been taken into consideration in the preparation of the following work programme:

	Approximate dates of consideration
Sixth Committee (organization of work)	3 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [109]	3 and 4 October
Observer Status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly [item 167]	4 October
Observer status for the Union of South American Nations in the General Assembly [item 168]	4 October
Observer status for the International Renewable Energy Agency in the General Assembly [169]	4 October
Observer status for the Central European Initiative in the General Assembly [170]	4 October
Observer status for the United Cities and Local Governments in the General Assembly [171]	4 October
Observer status for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in the General Assembly [172]	4 October
Observer status for the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries in the General Assembly [173]	4 October

	Approximate dates of consideration
Observer status for the International Conference of Asian Political Parties in the General Assembly [174]	4 October
The rule of law at the national and international levels [83]	5 October
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [82]	6 October
Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission [78]	7 October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-fourth session [79]	10 October
Administration of justice at the United Nations [143]	10 and 11 October
The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction [84]	12 and 13 October
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [80]	14 October
Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States [77]	17 October
The law of transboundary aquifers [85]	18 October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-third session [81]	24 October-2 November
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [166]	10 November
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [121] (adoption of a provisional programme of work for the sixty-seventh session (resolution 58/316))	10 November
Programme planning [135]	10 November
Election of the officers of the Main Committees [5]	10 November
In reserve	19, 20 and 21 October and 4 November

Establishment of working groups and holding of consultations

7. Regarding agenda item 143, entitled "Administration of justice at the United Nations", pursuant to its decision 65/513, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Sixth Committee, decided that the consideration of the outstanding legal aspects of the item, including the question of effective remedies for non-staff personnel, as well as the code of conduct for the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, would be continued during its sixty-sixth session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, taking into account the results of the deliberations of the Fifth and Sixth Committees on the item, previous decisions of the Assembly and any further decisions that the Assembly may take during its sixty-fifth session. In that light and

following consultations by the Bureau, four meetings, on 11, 13, 18 and 21 October, have been reserved for a working group on the administration of justice at the United Nations.

8. As regards agenda item 84, entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction", pursuant to its resolution 65/33, the General Assembly decided that the Sixth Committee should continue its consideration of the item, without prejudice to the consideration of the topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for this purpose decided to establish, at its sixty-sixth session, a working group of the Sixth Committee to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction. In that light and following consultations by the Bureau, four meetings, on 13, 14, 20 and 21 October, have been reserved for that purpose.

9. Concerning agenda item 109, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 decided, at its 48th meeting, on 15 April 2011, to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the sixty-sixth session of the Assembly, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and continue to discuss the item included in its agenda pursuant to Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations. In the light of the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee contained in paragraph 13 of its report (A/66/37), and following consultations by the Bureau, four meetings, on 17 and 19 October and on 1 and 4 November, have been reserved for that purpose.

10. In view of the limited conference services available to the Sixth Committee (see para. 12 below), any meetings for the working groups or for informal consultations will have to be accommodated within the overall meetings allocated to the Committee.

Deadline for the submission of draft resolutions with financial implications

11. According to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, "no resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General". It is therefore imperative that the Sixth Committee allow sufficient time for the preparation of estimates of expenditure by the Secretariat and for their consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee. Since 10 November has been fixed as the concluding date for the work of the Sixth Committee (see para. 6 above), 28 October would have to be considered the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications, except for draft resolutions concerning items to be considered after that date. When submitting such proposals, delegations may also wish to bear in mind that, in most cases, a period of more than 48 hours is required for the Secretary-General to review the programme budget implications of proposals.

Conference resources available

12. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold no more than 10 plenary meetings per week. Morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

13. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Meetings Management Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management through the Secretary of the Committee.